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Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/658,784; filed September 11, 2000

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Docket No.: ASMEEX.236A

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Applicant : Raaijmakers et al.
 App. No. : 09/658,784
 Filed : September 11, 2000
 For : LOADLOCK WITH
 INTEGRATED PRE-CLEAN
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 Examiner : Rudy Zervigon
 Art Unit : 1763

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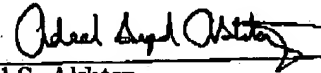
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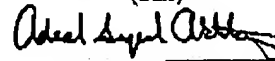
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AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

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Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed August 13, 2003, Applicants respectfully submit the following amendments and comments in connection with the above-captioned application. As the amendments only cancel claims and thereby reduce issues, entry is respectfully requested.

After entry of this amendment, Claims 61, 67 and 103-116 are pending.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.